

News and Notes

THE PLANS for the addition to the Government Hospital for the Insane at Washington, D. C., authorized by Congress to be constructed at a cost of \$1,000,000, have received the final approval of Secretary Hitchcock, of the Department of the Interior, and Dr. A. B. Richardson, Superintendent of the institution.

DR. WILLIAM L. CARLYLE, of Hebron, Nebraska, has been appointed assistant physician of the Hospital for the Chronic Insane at Hastings, Nebraska, vice Dr. Woodward, resigned; and Dr. Alma J. Chapman, of Hastings, succeeds Dr. Ewing, resigned.

IN THE case of Herbert C. Wadman, a patient, who died at Manhattan State Hospital, the coroner's jury rendered a verdict that Wadman came to his death from chronic nephritis and acute mania, aggravated and hastened by broken ribs and injuries to the chest and head. The jury censured the management of the Manhattan State Hospital, exonerating the Bellevue Hospital authorities, and found that the injuries were inflicted by Attendant John Foley, and that keeper Michael Carroll was an accessory. Both have been held for the grand jury.

REV. WILLIAM A. PASSAVANT, JR., of Pittsburg, Pa., died July 1. Mr. Passavant established, at Rochester, Pa., the excellent home for the care and treatment of epileptics which was named in honor of his father.

A PORTRAIT BUST of Theodor Meynert was unveiled at the Vienna University, May 19, nine years after his death. The memorial was erected by the government in honor of Meynert's discoveries and achievements in psychiatry.

THE REPORT of the Committee of Inquiry of the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic of London, England, has been presented to the Board of Governors. The witnesses heard comprised experts in hospital management, Lord Lister, Sir Wm. Broadbent, Sir Sidney Waterlow and Mr. C. S. Loch; members of the Board of Management; medical officers of the hospital; present and past house physicians; present and past matrons and nurses; the Secretary-Director and other officials. Of the allegations made by the medical staff, the committee find that some of the most important are true: some have foundation in fact, but were exaggerated, and that others are not supported by sufficient evidence. With regard to the question of diet they find that at the beginning of last year the supplies to particular wards fell short more often than ought to have occurred. The quality of the meat, fish, eggs and vegetables was often far from good. In a few cases the personal cleanliness of the patients did not receive sufficient care. In some wards the supply of linen was deficient. The supply of draw-sheets, which from the character of the diseases treated in the hospital are required in large quantity, was very deficient. The method of communication between the medical staff and the Board—through the Secretary-Di-

rector—has not worked well, and the committee are of the opinion that the direct representation of the staff on the Board would be of great and permanent benefit to the hospital and would have prevented the present schism. The allegations of the Board that such representation would tend to destroy the religious and philanthropic character of the hospital is dismissed as unfounded. The committee therefore recommend that the Board be increased by two members chosen by the medical committee from the medical staff. This change would tend to bring the hospital into line with similar institutions. The committee disapprove of the investiture of the Secretary-Director with so much power, and find that he has not used it with tact and judgment, but has exceeded his functions. They recommend the abolition of this office and the appointment of a secretary entrusted with ordinary powers who should be the chief and executive officer of the Board of Management, but be restrained from interfering with the lady superintendent or the medical staff, or that a secretary and medical superintendent should be appointed as a permanent officer, who should not only discharge the duties of secretary and house physician, but should be the responsible and resident head of the whole institution under the Board of Management. So far the prolonged and stubborn contest, which threatened to wreck one of the most useful charities in England, and one of the most famous hospitals in the world, has ended in the complete victory and vindication of the medical staff. The Secretary-Director, an able and energetic official, who has served the hospital more than thirty years, had gradually been allowed to take almost all the powers of the governing body into his own hands.

THE CRAIG COLONY FOR EPILEPTICS which now has 620 patients. will be able to accommodate 120 more when the four buildings, now being built, are completed.

A CONFERENCE has been held for the purpose of adding a new annex to the Allegheny City Home for the Insane at Claremont, Pa. The new annex will cost about \$120,000.

THE LATE DR. LANDON CARTER GRAY.

By the death of Dr. Landon Carter Gray the American Neurological Association has lost a member who, not only during his term of office as President, but also during his many years of membership in the Association, had been untiring in his efforts to promote the welfare of the Association and to extend its influence upon the medical profession of this country. As a teacher and writer upon neurological subjects Dr. Gray did much to further the advance of neurology in America, and his contributions have enriched the transactions of the Association during all the years of his membership. The Association feels even more deeply the loss of the charming personality and the unfailing kindness of his presence at its meetings. In expressing the loss of a distinguished teacher and a genial friend, the Association would tender its deepest sympathy to his widow.

Philip Coombs Knapp,
Charles K. Mills,
Charles L. Dana.